

I

HIGHWORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1970

H I G H W O R T H R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

1 9 7 0

-----oOo-----

Chairman of the Council	-	W. J. McKanan-Jones
Vice-Chairman of the Council	-	A. Burke Jones
Clerk of the Council	-	S. L. A. Jaques, D.M.A.

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

All members of the Council

Chairman	-	Mrs. B. D. Brettell
Vice-Chairman	-	Mrs. E. T. Constable

-----oOo-----

Council Offices,
Bath Road,
SWINDON, Wilts.

Tele: Swindon 4847/8/9
and 4840.

P U B L I C H E A L T H D E P A R T M E N T

STAFF AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1970

Medical Officer of Health:

W. E. Anwyl,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.
(Tele: Bristol 653441)

Part-time Secretary to the
Medical Officer of Health:

Mrs. L. Styles.

Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Officer:

J. M. Melrose,
M.A.P.H.I., Cert. R.S.A. Scot.,
R.S.H. Diploma for Inspectors of Meat
and Other Foods.
(Tele: Swindon 21657)

Deputy Chief Public Health
Inspector:

R. V. Brown,
M.A.P.H.I., Assoc. M.I.P.C.,
Cert. of P.H.I.E.B., R.S.H. Diploma for
Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods and
Diploma for Smoke Inspectors, Testamur
of the Inst. of Public Cleansing.

Additional Public Health
Inspectors:

M. S. Wildsmith,
M.A.P.H.I., Cert. of P.H.I.E.B.,
R.S.H. Diploma for Inspectors of Meat
and Other Foods, Cert. N.I.B.
(Termination of employment: 5th June, 1970)

P. N. Watkin,
M.A.P.H.I., Cert. of P.H.I.E.B.,
R.S.H. Diploma for Inspectors of Meat and
Other Foods and Diploma for Smoke
Inspectors.

G. C. Sinkins,
M.A.P.H.I., City and Guilds in Plumbers
Work, O.N.C. in Building Subjects,
Cert. of P.H.I.E.B., R.S.H. Diploma for
Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.
(Commenced duties: 1st November, 1970)

M. F. Poole,
M.A.P.H.I., Diploma of Public Health
Inspectors' Education Board.
(Appointed: 1st January, 1970. Previously
employed as Student Public Health Inspector)

Meat and Food Inspectors:

E. C. Herold,
M.A.P.H.I., Cert. S.I.B., R.S.H. Diploma for
Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.

F. D. Mitchell,
M.A.P.H.I., Cert. of P.H.I.E.B.,
R.S.H. Diploma for Inspectors of Meat and
Other Foods, Institute of Meat Advanced
Cert. of Meat Technology.
(Termination of employment: 5th June, 1970)

J. H. Mercer,
M.A.P.H.I., Cert. of P.H.I.E.B.,
R.S.H. Diploma for Inspectors of Meat and
Other Foods.

S. Gardner,
M.A.M.I., M.R.S.H., M.Inst.M.

R. Watts,
Cert. of R.S.H. for Authorised Meat
Inspectors.
(Commenced duties: 24th August, 1970)

Rodent Operator:

G. Salisbury,

(Termination of employment: 3rd July, 1970)

P. Watts,

(Commenced duties: 17th August, 1970)

Cleansing Inspector:

E. Gerrard,

A.M.I.W.H.S., A.M.M.T.O.A.

Clerical staff:

Secretary:

Mrs. C. P. Miles.

(Termination of employment: 2nd October, 1970)

Mrs. L. E. Rowland.

(Commenced duties: 19th October, 1970)

Junior Shorthand/Typist:

Miss S. Clarke.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 7 0

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HIGHWORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my annual report on the health of the District for the year 1970.

My comments on the state of the health of the District, which remains good, are contained under the appropriate headings of the body of the report, but I wish to emphasise two points.

Firstly, tobacco smoking.

I would commend to you the remarks of the Chief Medical Officer on this subject in his annual reports, and trust that sensible people will do all in their power to discourage the practice of this expensive, destructive, addictive, atmosphere polluting habit.

Secondly, measles.

A sample check of cases of measles officially notified to me, showed that only one of them had been vaccinated against measles and that this child had had a very mild illness. Various excuses were put forward for the failure to procure vaccination.

Here again, the climate of opinion must be cultivated to prevent this unnecessary misery to our children.

Much concern over the re-organisation of the health services and the relationship between the new health authorities and the new local authorities has been expressed by the District Medical Officers of Health in the County of Wiltshire, who are unanimous in their opinion that the District Medical Officers of Health (possibly under another name) should continue their present relationship with the Public Health Inspectors, and with Local Government at the "grass roots" level, where they are personally known.

I therefore trust that when re-organisation takes place I may have the pleasure to continue my association with you.

My thanks are due to Dr. P. Mann, the Public Health Laboratory, Bath, and to Dr. A. C. Buck, Consultant Pathologist to the Swindon and District Hospital Management Committee.

I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support in Public Health matters.

I also wish to thank Mr. J. Melrose, my Chief Public Health Inspector, and Mr. R. V. Brown, his Deputy, and my other colleagues for their ready co-operation and help given me during the year, and the Health Visitors working in this District for their assistance in environmental problems.

W. E. ANWYL

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the District (acres)	..	..	47,811
No. of Parishes	..	..	14
Total No. of houses	..	..	14,941
No. of Council dwellings	..	..	2,446
No. of applicants for Council dwellings	..	..	652
Estimated population (May 1st)	..	..	43,020
Rateable Value	..	..	£2,293,454
Estimated product of Penny Rate	..	..	£9,700
General rate in the Pound	..	..	13/3d.

VITAL STATISTICS

In calculating birth and death rates, area comparability factors are provided by the Registrar General to correct differences in the age and sex structure of the local population. For Highworth Rural District, the comparability factors are: births - 0.85; deaths - 1.19

	<u>Highworth R.D.</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Birth rate per 1,000 population	18.8	16
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	4	8
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	11	13
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	15	18
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births.. ..	15	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births		26
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	13	12
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	13	11
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	24	23
Deaths per 1,000 home population (adjusted)	10.5	11.7

Your District remains healthy compared with England and Wales as a whole.

This year there were no deaths of illegitimate infants under one year, compared with 2 in 1969.

The number of illegitimate live births has risen as follows:

<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
47	36	42

Births and Infant Deaths

	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Live Births	464	445	24	18	951
Still Births	7	3	-	1	11
Deaths under 1 year	6	8	-	-	14
Deaths under 4 weeks	5	7	-	-	12
Deaths under 1 week	5	7	-	-	12

There were 14 deaths under 1 year of age. 12 of these were under 1 week and were due to:

congenital anomalies	...	2
birth injury	...	6
other causes	...	4

Birth Rate

It can be seen from the following graph that the climbing total live birth rate of 1969 has been halted and that there is a slight decline from 19.6 to 18.8 per 1,000 population (33 births less than last year). Even so, it is still higher than the average rate for England and Wales. Comparing this fall with the rise of illegitimate live births, one wonders what this forebodes for the security, happiness and physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing of the child of the future.

Despite the availability of the pill and abortion, to a small degree these absolute figures demonstrate the inevitable failure of such measures.

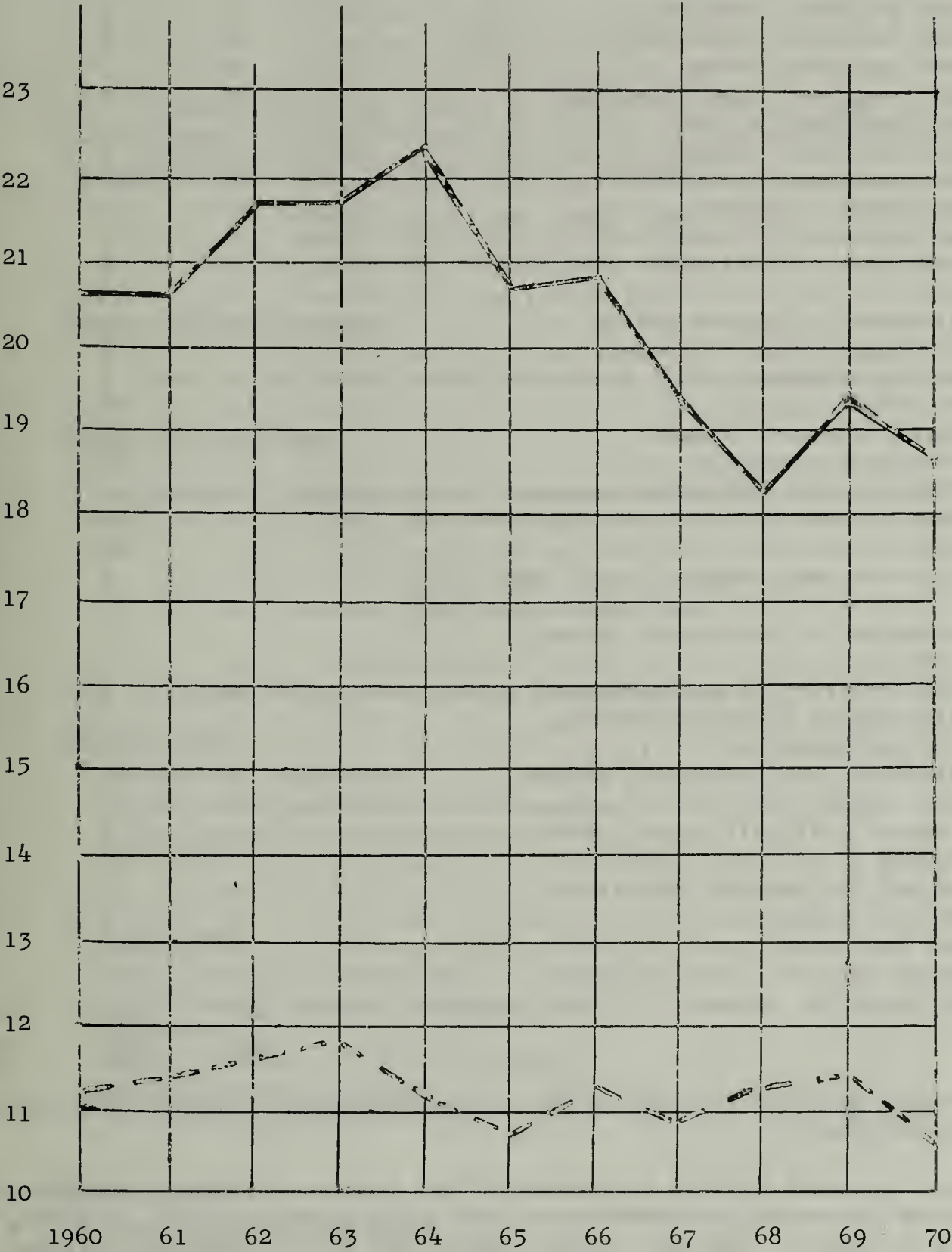
Death Rate

There has been a slight decline from last year - 11.5 to 10.5 per 1,000 population.

	M	F	Total
1968	204	222	426
1969	223	197	420
1970	190	190	380

Live Birth and Death Rates - Highworth R.D.C. 1960-1970

Rate per thousand
population



—————

Live Birth Rate

- - - - -

Death Rate

CAUSES OF DEATH 1970

The figures given below are taken from the Registrar General's Annual Report:

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus.....	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	4	3	7
Malignant neoplasm, intestine.....	2	5	7
Malignant neoplasm, larynx.....	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	18	2	20
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, prostate.....	3	-	3
Other malignant neoplasms.....	10	7	17
Diabetes mellitus.....	1	3	4
Other endocrine etc. diseases.....	1	-	1
Anaemias.....	3	2	5
Other diseases of nervous system.....	1	1	2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease.....	-	4	4
Hypertensive disease.....	4	5	9
Ischaemic heart disease.....	44	36	80
Other forms of heart disease.....	10	22	32
Cerebrovascular disease.....	19	23	42
Other diseases of circulatory system.....	5	10	15
Influenza.....	2	-	2
Pneumonia.....	23	27	50
Bronchitis and emphysema.....	11	7	18
Asthma.....	1	-	1
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	-	2	2
Peptic ulcer.....	1	-	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia.....	2	2	4
Other diseases of digestive system.....	2	-	2
Nephritis and nephrosis.....	1	1	2
Other diseases, genito-urinary system.....	1	2	3
Congenital anomalies.....	2	1	3
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.....	3	3	6
Other causes of perinatal mortality.....	1	3	4
Symptoms and ill defined conditions.....	2	-	2
Motor vehicle accidents.....	4	2	6
All other accidents.....	4	4	8
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries.....	2	2	4
All other external causes.....	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>190</u>	<u>190</u>	<u>380</u>

It should be noted that deaths due to ischaemic heart disease have risen by 27% since last year.

Again, the great killers are cancer of the lung and bronchus, bronchitis and emphysema and pneumonia, cerebrovascular and heart disease, aided, no doubt, by indulgence in tobacco, improper dietary habits and lack of adequate physical exercise.

It is a saddening thought that over 50% of the deaths in the Highworth Rural District are from those causes which are either directly due to, or accelerated by, smoking, not only cigarettes but cigars and pipes. Smoking is the main cause of cancer of the lung and bronchus and the heavy and terrible toll it takes is well known, but one tends to forget the heavier payment it exacts in suffering and death via bronchitis, emphysema, pneumonia, cerebrovascular and heart disease.

Malignant Disease

There was a total of 66 deaths from malignant disease, the same percentage of total deaths as last year, the figures being:

1969	..	71
1970	..	66

Cancer of the lung caused 20 deaths, 2 less than last year. There were 4 deaths in women from cancer of the lung last year and 2 this year. Totals for the last few years are as follows:

<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
10	18	20	18	22	20

Cardio Vascular Disease

Again, this group caused just under half the deaths.

Respiratory Disease

Pneumonia, bronchitis and emphysema caused 68 deaths, all but 7 being in the 65 years and over age group. This compares as follows:

<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
60	69	77	68

The following table shows deaths by age groups:

				<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
1.	<u>Under 1 year</u>					
	Congenital anomalies	...	...	2	1	
	Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.		...	3	3	
	Other causes of perinatal mortality		...	1	3	
	Accidents	...	...	-	1	
				6	8	14
2.	<u>1 - 14 years</u>					
	Other malignant neoplasms	...	...	1	-	
	Other endocrine etc. diseases	...	...	1	-	
	Anaemias	...	...	-	1	
	Other diseases of nervous system..		...	-	1	
	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	1	-	
	All other accidents	...	...	1	-	
				4	2	6
3.	<u>15 - 24 years</u>					
	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	1	1	
				1	1	2
4.	<u>25 - 34 years</u>					
	Other malignant neoplasms	...	...	2	-	
	All other accidents	...	...	1	-	
				3	-	3

5.	<u>35 - 44 years</u>		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
	Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus ...	...	1	-	
	Malignant neoplasm, intestine ...	...	-	1	
	Other malignant neoplasms ...	...	3	-	
	Ischaemic heart disease ...	...	3	1	
	Asthma ...	...	1	-	
	Intestinal obstruction and hernia ...	...	-	1	
			8	3	11
6.	<u>45 - 54 years</u>				
	Malignant neoplasm, intestine ...	...	-	1	
	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	...	2	-	
	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	...	-	2	
	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	...	-	1	
	Diabetes mellitus... ...	...	-	1	
	Chronic rheumatic heart disease... ...	...	-	1	
	Ischaemic heart disease ...	...	5	-	
	Cerebrovascular disease ...	...	2	2	
	Other diseases of circulatory system ...	...	1	1	
	Influenza ...	...	1	-	
	Pneumonia ...	...	1	-	
	Bronchitis and emphysema ...	...	1	-	
	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	...	-	1	
	Other diseases, genito-urinary system ...	...	-	1	
	Motor vehicle accidents ...	...	1	1	
	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries ...	...	1	-	
			15	12	27
7.	<u>55 - 64 years</u>				
	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	...	2	2	
	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	...	8	-	
	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	...	-	1	
	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	...	-	3	
	Malignant neoplasm, prostate ...	...	1	-	
	Other malignant neoplasms ...	...	1	1	
	Hypertensive disease ...	...	2	-	
	Ischaemic heart disease ...	...	12	2	
	Other forms of heart disease ...	...	1	-	
	Cerebrovascular disease ...	...	2	2	
	Other diseases of circulatory system ...	...	2	-	
	Pneumonia ...	...	2	1	
	Bronchitis and emphysema ...	...	2	-	
	Intestinal obstruction and hernia ...	...	-	1	
	Other diseasss of digestive system ...	...	1	-	
	Other diseases, genito-urinary system ...	...	-	1	
	All other accidents ...	...	1	-	
	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries ...	...	1	1	
	All other external causes ...	...	1	-	
			39	15	54
8.	<u>65 - 74 years</u>				
	Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus ...	...	-	1	
	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	...	1	-	
	Malignant neoplasm, intestine ...	...	1	2	
	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	...	6	1	
	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	...	-	1	
	Malignant neoplasm, prostate ...	...	1	-	
	Other malignant neoplasms ...	...	2	2	

<u>65 - 74 years (cont'd)</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Anaemias 	1	-	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease...	-	1	
Hypertensive disease 	-	3	
Ischaemic heart disease 	17	9	
Other forms of heart disease 	3	5	
Cerebrovascular disease 	8	5	
Other diseases of circulatory system 	1	3	
Influenza 	1	-	
Pneumonia 	6	8	
Bronchitis and emphysema 	4	3	
Peptic Ulcer 	1	-	
Intestinal obstruction and hernia 	1	-	
Other diseases of digestive system 	1	-	
Other diseases, genito-urinary system 	1	-	
All other accidents 	-	1	
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries 	-	1	
	<u>56</u>	<u>46</u>	102

9. 75 years and over

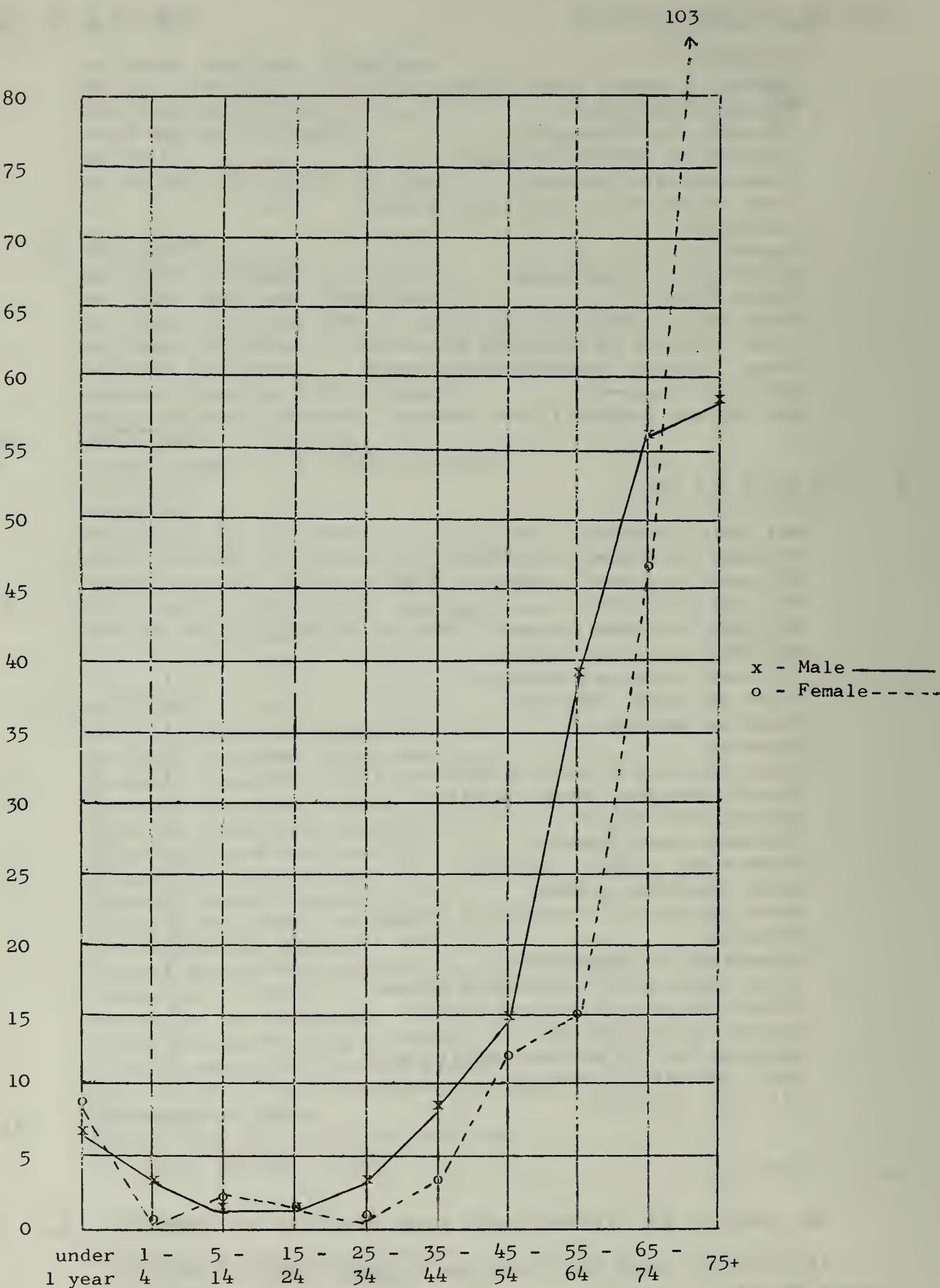
Malignant neoplasm, stomach 	1	1	
Malignant neoplasm, intestine 	1	1	
Malignant neoplasm, larynx 	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus 	2	1	
Malignant neoplasm, breast 	-	1	
Malignant neoplasm, uterus 	-	1	
Malignant neoplasm, prostate 	1	-	
Other malignant neoplasms 	1	4	
Diabetes mellitus... 	1	2	
Anaemias 	2	1	
Other diseases of nervous system... 	1	-	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease... 	-	2	
Hypertensive disease 	2	2	
Ischaemic heart disease 	7	24	
Other forms of heart disease 	6	17	
Cerebrovascular disease 	7	14	
Other diseases of circulatory system 	1	6	
Pneumonia 	14	18	
Bronchitis and emphysema 	4	4	
Other diseases of respiratory system 	-	1	
Intestinal obstruction and hernia 	1	-	
Nephritis and nephrosis 	1	1	
Symptoms and ill defined conditions 	2	-	
Motor vehicle accidents 	1	-	
All other accidents 	1	2	
	<u>58</u>	<u>103</u>	161

The graph on the following page shows deaths by age groups.

It should be noted that there was an equal number of male and female deaths.

30% of the men survived to the age of 75 or over;
80% of the men survived to the age of 55 or over.

Deaths by age groups:



NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following table shows all statutory notifications by age groups and quarters of the year.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases by Age Groups and Quarters of the Year

Age in Years	Under 1		1 -		2 -		3 -		4 -		5-9		10-14		15-24		25+		1st Qrt. Total		2nd Qrt. Total		3rd Qrt. Total		4th Qrt. Total		Grand Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Measles	2	1	1	2	3	4	2	5	1	3	11	8	2	-	1	2	-	-	2	4	3	5	7	15	11	1	23	25
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	9	7	-	-	1	-	-	1	5	3	5	5	2	-	1	1	13	9
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	2	1	6	4	5	3	3	5	7	3	6	4	1	1	17	13
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3	2
Tuberculosis (Other)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-

Tuberculosis

The mobile x-ray unit continues to visit the area once a week. On Monday afternoons at 1.45 it is at the White Hart Hotel, Oxford Road, Stratton St. Margaret, and it proceeds to the Rural District Council car park, near the library, Highworth, at 2.30. The unit also visits factories, schools, etc. as required.

I am indebted to the Medical Officer in Charge of the Mass Radiography Service, Reading, for the following figures for the year 1970:

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of patients referred by G.Ps:				
	Highworth	105	123	228
	Stratton St. Margaret ..	<u>245</u>	<u>211</u>	<u>456</u>
		350	334	684
Number referred to Chest Clinic:				
	Highworth	4	1	5
	Stratton St. Margaret ..	<u>16</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>21</u>
		20	6	26
Diagnosis of cases referred:				
	Active tuberculosis.. ..	4	1	5
	Lung cancer	2	1	3

IMMUNISATIONS

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following immunisation figures for the District:

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Measles and Poliomyelitis

Year of Birth		1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1961 - 65	1955 - 60	Others under 16
Primary imms. completed during 1970	Diph.	466	408	13	9	1	16	5	-
	Wh/c.	464	402	11	2	1	10	-	-
	Tet.	466	409	13	10	2	27	34	4
	Measles	3	629	333	57	65	58	3	-
	Polio.	463	413	20	8	5	32	3	-
Reinforcing imms. given in 1970	Diph.	-	321	473	36	245	330	7	-
	Wh/c.	-	311	463	24	7	79	1	-
	Tet.	-	321	473	37	248	358	45	20
	Polio.	-	306	454	29	246	639	10	2

Smallpox

Age Group	Months				Years		
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1	2-4	5-15
Vaccinations	1	2	1	11	398	23	35
Re-vaccinations				-	-	1	25

Primary Diphtheria etc. Immunisation State of Babies

1969 babies immunised to 31.13.70	1969 live births	% immunised
915	984	93.0

The following table shows comparison with other neighbouring areas and with the County as a whole.

			<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Highworth R.D.	..	..	96.7	94.5	93.0
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett R.D.			80.1	83.5	82.4
Swindon Borough	..	..	81.5	58.9	62.1
Wiltshire County	..	..	80.3	77.4	83.2

One wonders what the future medical history of the 16.8 (or 1,467) unimmunised children in Wiltshire will be, 69 of whom belong to Highworth Rural District.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

During the period under review I have had no cause to take action under this Act. The very few cases which have come to my notice to which this Act might have been applied, were satisfactorily resolved by discussion and explanation.

C O N T E N T S

of the

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING OFFICER

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A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1970

To: The Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee
of the Highworth Rural District Council

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to present to you the Annual Report for 1970, detailing the work of my section of the Public Health Department, namely: all aspects of environmental health; the meat inspection service; and the public cleansing service.

The year 1970 being European Conservation Year, it was heartening to see more and more publicity on, and in the mass media, being given to the problems of the pollution of the environment by toxic and non-toxic solid and liquid wastes; smoke and dust; and noise. I am sure it has made the general public and industry more conscious of their responsibilities in preserving the amenities of our environment and it is to be hoped that the impetus of Conservation Year will not be lost.

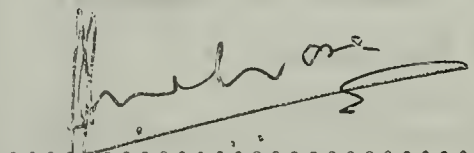
Troubles were experienced in the public cleansing service in the latter part of the year - due to the withdrawal of manual labour - and although a great deal of inconvenience was caused, the emergency measures that were taken, together with the fullest co-operation of the public, avoided any likelihood of a major public health nuisance.

The problem of refuse disposal looms high on the horizon, and it is pleasing to note that this Council has finally agreed to participate with the Swindon Borough Council on a joint scheme of disposal by incineration.

It will be seen from the housing statistics given, that the slum clearance programme has been virtually completed and it is satisfying to see the number of older type dwellings being improved and repaired under the Improvement Grants Scheme. Some of these houses would have otherwise undoubtedly been the subject of demolition action under the Housing Acts.

I would like to thank the Chairman of the Committee for her continued support and all members of the Committee for their keen interest in the work of the Health Department.

Finally, my thanks to all members of the staff of my department; they have continued to support me as a very excellent team, and also my thanks to the County Public Health Officer of the Wiltshire County Council, whose willing co-operation has been of great assistance during the year.



J. M. Melrose.

Chief Public Health Inspector and
Cleansing Officer

SECTION ONE

WATER SUPPLIES

Practically the whole of the district is supplied by public mains, by the Swindon Water Undertaking; none of the supplies are plumbo-solvent. No major problems have arisen over water supplies during the year.

WATER SAMPLING (BACTERIOLOGICAL)

Regular bacteriological samples were taken from the 3 private mains supplies in the district, but no problems were encountered. All samples taken from the public mains gave satisfactory results.

WATER SAMPLING (CHEMICAL)

Nil

SWIMMING POOL

The swimming pool at Highworth was again open for the summer season, but this year break-point chlorination was adopted. This proved to be very successful in maintaining the required standard for the water and no other problems were encountered.

DETAILS OF ALL WATER SAMPLES TAKEN IN THE VARIOUS PARISHES

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Total number</u> <u>of samples taken</u>	<u>Total number</u> <u>satisfactory</u>	<u>Total number</u> <u>un-</u> <u>satisfactory</u>
	<u>chemical,</u> <u>bacteriological,</u> <u>and fluoride</u>		
Bishopstone	27	25	2
Blunsdon	-	-	-
Castle Eaton	-	-	-
Chiseldon	9	7	2
Hannington	1	1	-
Haydon Wick	-	-	-
Highworth	-	-	-
Inglesham	-	-	-
Liddington	-	-	-
South Marston	-	-	-
Stanton Fitzwarren	-	-	-
Stratton St. Margaret	5	5	-
Wanborough	5	4	1
Wroughton	1	1	-
<u>Total:</u>	48	43	5

SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC SUPPLIES

Number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination	...	7
" " " giving unsatisfactory results	...	Nil
" " " submitted for chemical analysis	...	Nil
" " " giving unsatisfactory results	...	Nil
" " " submitted for fluoride test	...	Nil

PRIVATE SUPPLIES

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Total number of samples taken</u>	<u>Total number satisfactory</u>	<u>Total number un- satisfactory</u>
Bishopstone	27	25	2
Chiseldon	8	6	2
Hannington	1	1	-
Wanborough	5	4	1
Total:	41	36	5

SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS OF PRIVATE SUPPLIES

Number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination	...	41
" " " giving unsatisfactory results	...	5
" " " submitted for chemical analysis	...	Nil
" " " giving unsatisfactory results	...	Nil
" " " submitted for fluoride test	...	Nil

W A T E R S U P P L Y T A B L E

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Population in houses</u>	<u>Total number of houses</u>	<u>Source of supply</u>	<u>Houses on piped water</u>	<u>% piped indoors</u>	<u>Houses on outdoor s/taps</u>	<u>Houses on wells</u>	<u>% Houses on wells or s/taps</u>
Bishopstone	603	200	(1) Lammy Down - Church Commissioners. (2) Ogbourne - Swindon Corporation, (Hinton supply).	198	99	2	15	8.54
Blunsdon	1,873	648	Latton - Swindon Corporation.	648	100	-	-	-
Castle Eaton	309	80	Ashton Keynes - Swindon Corporation.	80	100	-	12	15
Chiseldon (does not include service personnel in camps etc)	2,954	854	(1) Ogbourne - Swindon Corporation. (2) Burderop Estate Reservoir.	854	100	-	-	-
Hannington	279	73	Latton - Swindon Corporation.	73	100	-	5	6.85
Haydon Wick	2,395	893	Latton - Swindon Corporation.	893	100	-	1	0.11
Highworth	5,452	2,014	Latton - Swindon Corporation.	2,014	100	-	2	0.09
Inglesham	129	39	Latton - Swindon Corporation.	39	100	-	1	2.56
Liddington	335	113	Ogbourne - Swindon Corporation.	113	100	-	-	-
South Marston	567	178	Latton - Swindon Corporation.	178	100	-	4	2.24
Stanton Fitzwarren	214	73	Latton - Swindon Corporation.	73	100	-	-	-
Stratton St. Margaret	18,309	6,165	Latton - Swindon Corporation.	6,165	100	-	-	-
Wanborough	3,465	1,236	Foxhill - Foxhill Estates. Ogbourne - Swindon Corporation.	1,236	100	-	-	-
Wroughton (does not include service personnel in camps, etc.)	7,398	2,375	Ogbourne - Swindon Corporation.	2,375	100	-	-	-
<u>Totals:</u>	44,282	14,941		14,939	99.98	2	40	0.267

S E C T I O N T W O

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, FOOD PREPARATION PREMISES
AND FOOD SHOPS

Food inspection

The types and quantities of food (other than meat at slaughter-houses) inspected and condemned during the year are listed hereafter. All food involved was voluntarily surrendered and in most instances unfitness was due to damage to containers, or in the case of frozen foods, mechanical failure of refrigerated storage.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The following complaints, concerning food, were made during the year and the action taken in each case is shown below:

1. Mould on cheese spread.
 Action: letter to manufacturers - no proceedings warranted.
2. Fly in cough syrup.
 Action: reported to Council with subsequent warning letter to manufacturers.
3. Dirt in bottle of milk.
 Action: proceedings taken and defendants fined £10, with £11 costs.
4. Dirty milk bottle.
 Action: warning letter to dairy.
5. Lubricating grease on sausages.
 Action: warning letter to manufacturers.
6. Mould on bread at factory canteen.
 Action: warning letter to caterer and supplier.
7. Peat in steak and mushroom pie.
 Action: warning letter to manufacturers.
8. Brown stain in loaf of bread.
 Action: letter to manufacturers.

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT,
1955

Premises used for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods	o o o	o o o	o o o	9
Premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream	o . o	o o o	o . o	Nil
Premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream	. o .	o o o	o o o	96

				105
				==

PREPARATION AND SALE OF ICE-CREAM

There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the area and the 96 premises registered, sell only pre-packed ice-cream.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1960

From the ensuing list it will be seen that there are 251 food premises in the area, including factory canteens, school kitchens, hotels, restaurants, cafes, licensed premises and shops. The control and supervision of these premises are a major function of the department and it is gratifying that during the past year, no major problems have been encountered. The general standard of hygiene in food shops has been found to be satisfactory and particularly so in the modern factory canteens and school kitchens.

Inspections have been carried out periodically through the year of mobile shops and delivery vehicles, which are subject to the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966. Some difficulty has been experienced in securing compliance with the regulations regarding washing facilities, but legal proceedings were not warranted.

FOOD PREMISES - TRADE CATEGORIES

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Type of premises</u> *Registered for the sale of ice-cream. +Registered for the preparation of meat, etc.	<u>Number of food premises</u>
<u>Bishopstone</u>	1 Greengrocer 3 General Provisions (2*) 2 Public Houses	6
<u>Blunsdon</u>	1 Confectioner (*) 1 Factory Canteen 1 Garage (*) 3 General Provisions (3*) 1 Hotel 1 Licensed Stadium 2 Public Houses (1*)	10
<u>Castle Eaton</u>	1 General Provisions 1 Public House (*)	2
<u>Criseldon</u>	1 Bakery 1 Butcher 1 Confectioner 1 Fish and Chip Shop 1 Garage (*) 6 General Provisions (6*) 1 Licensed Club 6 Public Houses (4*) 1 School Meals Depot	19
<u>Hamington</u>	1 General Store (*) 2 Public Houses	3
<u>Haydon Wick</u>	1 Butcher 1 Confectioner (*) 1 Fried Fish Shop 3 General Provisions (1*) 1 Licensed Club 2 Public Houses	9
<u>Highworth</u>	2 Butchers (1+) 2 Cafes 1 Chemist 6 Confectioners (6*) 1 Fried Fish Shop 12 General Provisions (9*) 2 Greengrocers 2 Hotels 1 Licensed Club 7 Public Houses 2 School Kitchens 1 Slaughterhouse	39
<u>Inglesham</u>	1 Cafe 1 Youth Hostel	2
<u>Liddington</u>	1 General Provisions (*) 2 Public Houses	3
<u>South Marston</u>	1 Factory Canteen 1 Garage (*) 1 General Store (*) 2 Public Houses	5

FOOD PREMISES - TRADE CATEGORIES (CONT'D)

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Type of premises</u> <u>*Registered for the sale of ice-cream.</u> <u>+Registered for the preparation of meat, etc.</u>	<u>Number of food premises</u>
<u>Stanton Fitzwarren</u>	1 General Provisions (*)	1
<u>Stratton</u>	5 Bakeries 3 Butchers (3+) 1 Cafe 1 Canning Factory (+) 3 Chemists 6 Confectioners (5*) 13 Factory Canteens 5 Fried Fish Shops (1*) 4 Garages (*) 26 General Provisions (22*) 1 General Provisions (Wholesale) 3 Greengrocers (1*) 1 Hospital 1 Hostel 2 Licensed Clubs 13 Public Houses (3*) 1 Poultry Packer (+) 11 School Canteens 2 Slaughterhouses (1+) 1 Welfare Home	103
<u>Wanborough</u>	1 Baker 1 Butcher (+) 1 Factory Canteen 3 General Provisions (2*) 1 Poultry Packer (+) 7 Public Houses 2 School Kitchens	16
<u>Wroughton</u>	1 Baker 2 Butchers (+) 1 Chemist 3 Confectioners (3*) 1 Factory Canteen 1 Fish and Chip Shop and General Store (*) 1 Garage (*) 11 General Provisions (9*) 1 Hospital Kitchen 1 Licensed Club 8 Public Houses (1*) 2 School Kitchens	33
	<u>Total number of food premises:</u>	<u>251</u>

SECTION THREE

MILK SUPPLIES: MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1959

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1965

Number of distributors registered in the district	...	42
Number of producers/retailers in the district registered as dairy farmers by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food	...	3
Number of dairies registered in the district	...	7
Number of producers/retailers' licences granted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food	...	3

Under the powers delegated by the Wiltshire County Council, the sampling of milk, and the licensing and inspection of dairies and milk distributors, was continued throughout the year.

No serious problems were encountered and all samples of milk which failed the appropriate tests were followed up by repeat samples and investigation, together with advice as appropriate to the case.

Samples of untreated milk were regularly examined for Brucellosis; only one "positive" ring test was recorded during the year and this proved "negative" upon guinea-pig inoculation test.

DETAILS OF SAMPLING DURING 1970

1. UNTREATED MILK

<u>METHYLENE BLUE TEST</u>				<u>BRUCELLA RING TEST</u>			<u>BIOLOGICAL TEST FOR T.B.</u>		
Number of samples taken	Passed	Failed	Void	Number of samples taken	Positive	Negative	Number of samples taken	Positive	Negative
50	35	15	-	54	-	54	16	Nil	16

2. PASTEURISED MILK - INCLUDING TUBERCULIN TESTED (PASTEURISED)

<u>METHYLENE BLUE TEST</u>				<u>PHOSPHATASE TEST</u>			
Number of samples taken	Passed	Failed	Void	Number of samples taken	Passed	Failed	Void
199	170	13	16	199	183	Nil	16

3. TURBIDITY TEST FOR STERILISED MILK

<u>Number of samples taken</u>			<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>
13			13	Nil

SECTION FOUR

MEAT INSPECTION

Abattoir, Stratton St. Margaret

Proposals were made by the occupiers for a major extension to this abattoir, involving a substantial increase in slaughtering. In preparation for this, a further Meat Inspector was appointed to the staff in August, 1970. However, the new scheme did not materialise, although slaughtering rose by some 33%, but the services of the extra Inspector proved valuable and also relieved the necessity of withdrawing District Inspectors from their normal duties, for meat inspection.

Difficulties were experienced in maintaining desirable hygiene standards and in undertaking a full inspection routine, due to the present layout and consequent congestion in the slaughterhouse. The new extension would have provided adequate space for the proper carrying out of all necessary operations and when this was abandoned, it became imperative to approach the occupiers with a view to improving conditions at the existing premises. It is anticipated that this will be fulfilled without undue delay in the coming year.

Bacon Factory, Stratton St. Margaret

The number of pigs slaughtered during the year was 78,366 being a rise of 7,895 over the previous twelve months; this follows the general trend of increased production during the last decade. Alterations and improvements to the premises and the modernisation of equipment over this period has ensured that, even at the present level of production, conditions at this slaughterhouse are very satisfactory.

CARCASES AND ORGANS CONDEMNED
IN ALL SLAUGHTERHOUSES IN THE DISTRICT

Cattle

Spleens	• • •	1,812 lbs.
Udders	• • •	1,390 "
Stomachs and intestines	• • •	14,030 "
Tails	• • •	52 "
Beasts and all organs	• • •	32,159 "
Carcase meat	• • •	4,998 "
Heads	• • •	4,800 "
Lungs	• • •	32,284 "
Livers	• • •	58,408 "
Part livers	• • •	27,127 "
Hearts	• • •	2,053 "
Kidneys	• • •	1,037 "
Skirts	• • •	1,532 "

Sheep

Sheep and all organs	• • •	1,656 "
Carcase meat	• • •	3,277 "
Lungs	• • •	9,230 "
Livers	• • •	7,978 "
Hearts	• • •	64 "
Kidneys	• • •	3 "

Pigs

Pigs and all organs	• • •	35,339 "
Carcase meat	• • •	7,563 "
Heads	• • •	28,951 "
Plucks	• • •	5,394 "
Livers	• • •	9,460 "
Lungs	• • •	28,279 "
Hearts	• • •	391 "
Spleens	• • •	76 "
Flecks	• • •	1,092 "
Kidneys	• • •	222 "

Calves

Calves and all organs	• • •	180 "
Carcase meat	• • •	35 "
Kidneys	• • •	1 "

THE INCIDENCE OF DISEASE (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO TUBERCULOSIS) IN PIGS

SLAUGHTERED AND EXAMINED AT THE ST. MARGARET WILTSHIRE BACON FACTORY LIMITED, 1966 - 1970

<u>Details</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Number of pigs killed and examined	52,565	68,396	58,340	70,471	78,366
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned . . .	132	216	156	204	292
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	9,210	13,684	11,438	17,638	23,456
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis . . .	17.8%	20.3%	19.9%	25.3%	30.3%
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned . . .	7	1	6	5	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,417	1,801	1,781	1,733	2,277
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis . . .	2.7%	2.6%	3.1%	2.5%	2.9%

<u>Details</u>	<u>Cattle excluding Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Horses</u>
Number killed	19,647	2,344	13	41,778	78,371	-
Number inspected	19,647	2,344	13	41,778	78,371	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	14	51	2	50	292	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9,293	1,928	2	8,977	23,456	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	47.4%	84.4%	30.8%	21.6%	30.3%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	2,277	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	2.9%	-
<u>*Cysticercosis:</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	67	1	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	67	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	1	-	-	1	-	-
*Percentage of all beasts affected with Cysticercosis - 31%						

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF UNSOUND FOOD

<u>Detail</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Meat	3,380	Rice	61
Chicken	146	Flour	418
Sausages	27	Porridge oats	54
Faggots	33	Breakfast cereals	5
Beef-burgers	41	Cornflour	7
Meat pies	69	Macaroni	12
Sausage rolls	1	Butter	50
Luncheon meat	11	Cheese	36
Corned beef	57	Margarine	13
Suet	17	Milk powder	17
Stew	22	Condensed milk	3
Gravy	1	Cream	4
Fish	192	Peanut butter	7
Fish-fingers	71	Cooking fat	7
Fish-cakes	52	Jam	53
Fish-paste	2	Marmalade	37
Beans	110	Mincemeat	23
Peas	237	Coffee	2
Potato chips	32	Beverages	14
Brussels sprouts	18	Cakes	19
Spinach	6	Pastry	37
Carrots	21	Trifle	7
Onions	3	Ice-cream	2
Cabbage	2	Mousse	15
Beetroot	18	Biscuits	34
Fruit salad	57	Potato crisps	21
Oranges	5	Peanuts	16
Tomatoes	48	Sugar	30
Pears	16	Custard powder	14
Peaches	25	Soup	37
Apricots	1	Treacle	4
Prunes	5	Salad cream	2
Grapefruit	20	Baby food	3
Currants	19	Salt	6
Sultanas	1	Sweets	107
Cherries	3	Assorted frozen foods	308
Strawberries	4		<u>6,302</u>
Pineapple	39		<u> </u>
Apples	1		
Raspberries	3		
Plums	1		

POULTRY INSPECTION

There was no slaughtering of poultry at packing and processing establishments during the year 1970.

S E C T I O N F I V E

F A C T O R I E S A C T , 1 9 6 1

L I S T O F F A C T O R I E S I N T H E D I S T R I C T

Agricultural crop driers	...	...	...	1
Bakers and confectioners	...	...	...	2
Bathroom fittings	...	...	...	1
Brewing and mineral waters	...	...	...	1
Brick-making	...	...	...	1
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	1
Cabinet making and carpentry	...	...	...	3
Carpet and mat manufacturers	...	...	...	1
Concrete and concrete block manufacturers	...	...	...	1
Chemical laboratories	...	...	...	1
Electronics	...	...	...	2
Electro-plating	...	...	...	1
Engineers, including repairs to motor vehicles and motor cycles	...	...	...	31
Export packing	...	...	...	1
Fire-places	...	...	...	2
Food canning	...	...	...	1
Joinery, wheel-wright, undertakers and woodworkers	...	...	...	8
Knacker's yard	...	...	...	1
Laundry	...	...	...	1
Metal sorting	...	...	...	2
Motor body and caravan builders	...	...	...	4
Painting and phosphating	...	...	...	4
Plant hire and maintenance	...	...	...	3
Printers	...	...	...	1
Record player manufacturers	...	...	...	1
Sausage manufacturers	...	...	...	1
Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	3
Wood box manufacturers	...	...	...	1
Wines and spirits bottling	...	...	...	1
Tyre fitters	...	...	...	2
Welding fabrications	...	...	...	2
Total				86

1. INSPECTIONS

Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced
by Local Authorities.

Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by
Local Authority.

Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).

<u>Number on register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted</u>
Nil	-	-	-
86	30	-	-
-	-	-	-
86	30	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Want of cleanliness, Section 1.
Overcrowding, Section 2.
Unreasonable temperature, Section 3.
Inadequate ventilation, Section 4.
Ineffective drainage of floors, Section 6.
Sanitary conveniences, Section 7:

- (a) Insufficient
- (b) Unsuitable or defective
- (c) Not separate for sexes

Other offences against the Act (excluding outworkers)

<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred to H. M. Inspector</u>	<u>Referred by H. M. Inspector</u>	<u>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</u>

OUTWORKERS

Thirty-nine persons were notified during the year as engaged in out-work. Upon inspection all conditions were found to be satisfactory.

<u>Nature of work</u>	<u>Number of out-workers</u>	<u>Number of cases in default of sending lists to the Council</u>	<u>Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</u>	<u>Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises</u>	<u>Notices served</u>	<u>Prosecutions</u>
Sewing	1	-	-	-	-	-
Knitting	1	-	-	-	-	-
Baby pants	4	-	-	-	-	-
Letter file manufacture	33	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	39	-	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

In the district at the present time there are 159 premises which come within the scope of the Act, all of which have been inspected since this Act came into force.

Routine inspections of 38 premises were carried out in the year and no major problems were encountered.

ADMINISTRATION

One Public Health Inspector is responsible for enforcement of the Act, but owing to staff shortages, the number of routine inspections carried out during the year was about the same as the previous year. Where new premises are being built, or existing premises adapted for office or shop use, advice is given on the requirements of the Act before commencement of building operations.

ENFORCEMENT

Apart from new premises not yet fully occupied, all premises have been inspected since the Act came into force. During 1970, 38 visits were made and conditions at these premises were generally satisfactory. Thermometers, first-aid boxes and abstracts of the Act were the only items which were required to be provided.

During the course of the year 13 accidents were reported by occupiers and these were due to:-

Falls on same level	...	...	...	2
Falls from one level to another	...	...	...	1
Injuries caused while handling goods	...	...	...	2
Injuries inflicted by vehicles	...	...	...	4
Injuries caused by machinery	...	...	...	1
Struck by falling object	...	...	...	1
Unspecified injuries	...	...	...	2

None of the injuries were fatal, or resulted in the loss of sight or limbs.

Number of Inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) of the Act	...	...	...	1
Number of other staff employed most of the time on work in connection with the Act	...	...	...	None
Number of visits of all types by Inspectors to registered premises	...	...	...	38
Number of exemptions granted or refused under the Act	...	...	...	Nil
Number of prosecutions instituted	...	...	...	Nil
Number of complaints made under Section 22	...	...	...	Nil
Number of interim orders granted	...	...	...	Nil

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

<u>Class of premises</u>	<u>Number of premises registered during the year</u>	<u>Total number of registered premises at the end of year</u>	<u>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</u>
Offices	2	24	8
Retail shops	6	103	23
Wholesale shops, ware-houses	4	13	-
Catering establishments open to the public	-	-	-
Canteens	-	18	7
Fuel storage depots	1	1	-
Total:	13	159	38

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED

PREMISES BY WORK-PLACE

<u>Class of work-place</u>	<u>Number of persons employed</u>
Offices	570
Retail shops	311
Wholesale departments, ware-houses	962
Catering establishments open to the public	94
Canteens	14
Fuel storage depots	6
Total:	1957

TOTAL MALES: 721.

TOTAL FEMALES: 1236.

S E C T I O N S I X

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Weather

The total rainfall recorded at Wroughton during 1970 was 25°40". This was about 1" more than in 1969, but still several inches less than in the previous 3 years. November was particularly wet, but this followed a generally dry spell from mid-September. Snow fell in February, March, April and December, but not in exceptional quantities.

General

The strike of manual workers in October, lasting about 3 weeks, was the cause of some concern and although it resulted in some deterioration of standards of effluent being discharged from the various sewage disposal works and pumping stations, these were generally kept running and no serious consequences arose.

In the parishes

Blunsdon St. Andrew

The scheme for the sewerage of Lower Blunsdon was completed and brought into use early in the year.

Ministry approval was received to proposals for further extensions to the sewage disposal works, comprising an oxidation ditch and final settlement tank. Tender documents were being prepared at the end of the year and the extensions are expected to be completed in the late summer of 1971.

Chiseldon

A scheme was prepared in conjunction with Swindon Corporation for the main drainage of 23 houses, "The Spotted Cow", "The Sun" and Richard Jefferies' house on the Marlborough Road at Coate. It is expected that tenders will have been obtained for this scheme and that it will be carried out during the summer of 1971.

Tenders were obtained for a scheme for sewerage and enlargement of the disposal works at Draycot Foliat and is expected to be proceeded with early in 1971.

Following the Ministry's local investigation in September 1970, further information has to be provided before the Ministry's authority to invite tenders for extensions to the sewage disposal works and the sewerage of Hodson will be given.

Hannington

An extension of the sewer was constructed to serve four houses in Queens Road.

Haydon Wick

An outline scheme for improvements to the brook, to avoid flooding, was prepared by the County Land Agent and a start was made on the preparation of a more detailed scheme.

Highworth

Proposals for increasing the capacity of the sewage disposal works were prepared and considered by the Public Health Committee and discussed informally with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the Thames Conservancy. Arising from these discussions further investigations are being carried out.

Inglesham

In May, the Ministry's long awaited approval was received to the obtaining of tenders for the proposed sewerage scheme. Tenders were received in August and construction work, delayed to correspond with the extended period required for provision of the electricity supply, is expected to be commenced early in 1971 and be completed in the summer.

South Marston

Tender documents were being prepared by the Consulting Engineers, Howard Humphreys & Sons, for the scheme for foul sewers, surface water sewers, pumping station and rising main discharging to the existing sewer at Pressed Steel Fisher Limited's works at Stratton St. Margaret.

Stratton St. Margaret

Work was commenced in the late autumn on the laying of a storm water relief sewer and connection of properties in Kingsdown Road to it.

Tenders have been received for the laying of a foul sewer to serve 7 houses in Hyde Road and construction should be commenced in February, 1971.

Wanborough

A scheme was proposed and tenders obtained for the provision of a surface water sewer from Kite Hill to the River Liden at Fox Bridge, to allow for future development at Wanborough and work is due to start early in 1971.

Wroughton

A scheme has been prepared and an order has been placed for a microstrainer, to provide additional treatment at the sewage disposal works. Delivery is anticipated by about July 1971, by which time the necessary civil engineering works will have been completed.

A deodorising system has been installed at the sewage disposal works to alleviate complaints of smells arising under particular conditions.

(The information on this item was kindly supplied by M. Croker - C.Eng., M.I.Mun.E., A.R.I.C.S., A.M.I.H.E. - the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.)

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

The 3 Boiling Plants continued in operation and no difficulties were experienced.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

During the past year, no major changes have occurred to the existing caravan sites. The general standard of these sites has remained high and only minor problems have arisen, these being suitably and speedily rectified.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no houses registered as Common Lodging Houses within the district.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The Plant has generally been satisfactory throughout the year. The only time complaints were received in any volume was during the summer months; at this time very hot weather occurred, when the usual difficulties experienced with raw materials being in a state of decomposition prior to arrival at the works, caused problems. Regular inspections and observations were continued.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956 - CABLE BURNING PLANT

Complaints were received sporadically during the year, but were generally far less than in 1969.

The furnace is a scheduled process under the Alkali Works Act and as such is the responsibility of the local Alkali Inspector, but nevertheless as the Local Authority, regular observations are taken and the Alkali Inspector informed.

SUMMARY OF CARAVANS IN THE DISTRICT

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1970

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Individual sites</u>	<u>Multiple licensed sites</u>	<u>Number of caravans on multiple licensed sites</u>
Bishopstone	-	-	-
Blunsdon	2	1	112
Castle Eaton	-	-	-
Chiseldon	1	-	-
Hannington	-	-	-
Haydon Wick	1	-	-
Highworth	1	-	-
Inglesham	-	-	-
Liddington	-	-	-
Stanton Fitzwarren	-	-	-
South Marston	-	1	2
Stratton St. Margaret	-	3	50
Wanborough	1	1	2
Wroughton	-	2	61
<u>Total:</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>227</u>

RODENT CONTROL

Incidences of rats and mice infestations do not appear to be on the increase, but constant vigilance is necessary to avoid further growth in the rodent population.

During the year, 1 Pest Control Officer terminated his employment with the Council and in the period before a new Officer could commence his duties, the work was carried out by a national firm of rodent destruction contractors.

The analysis of inspections and infestations is shown hereunder:

<u>Properties other than sewers</u>	<u>Type of property</u>			
	<u>non- agricultural</u>		<u>agricultural</u>	
	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
1. Number of properties in district.	14,226	15,076	258	554
2. (a) Total number of properties inspected following notification.	313	236	24	33
(b) Number infested by:				
(i) rats.	188	142	19	26
(ii) mice.	51	51	7	2
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice, for reasons other than notification.	102	23	42	9
(b) Number infested by:				
(i) rats	14	11	13	4
(ii) mice	1	3	-	-

WARFARIN RESISTANCE

For approximately the past twelve years, the main poison used against rodents has been Warfarin, which is an anti-coagulant and very useful since it does not produce "poison-shyness". However, over the years there has been a resistance to the poison's effects bred into both rats and mice, and although the spread is slow, it is nevertheless on an increase. This year, in the Highworth area, there has been several instances of suspected resistance in mice, since they were taking the bait without any effect, but upon changing to a different type of poison, the infestations were quickly cleared. No instances of resistance in rats have been found.

SEWER TREATMENT

Sewers were treated in the parishes of Bishopstone, Chiseldon, Liddington, Wanborough and Wroughton. Of the 72 manholes tested, infestations were only found in 7 inspection chambers at Wroughton.

OTHER PESTS

During the year treatment was carried out to clear the following infestations:

Cockroaches	...	8
Fleas	...	4
Flies	...	5
Ants	...	21
Silverfish	...	1
Mites	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	6
Wasps	...	57

The incidences of wasp infestations were high and difficulty was encountered in dealing with them, since their nests were invariably built in inaccessible places, such as roof spaces, cavity walls, etc. This problem was experienced nation-wide and was not purely confined to the Highworth rural district.

SECTION SEVEN

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE

Refuse collection

The weekly collection of refuse throughout the district was once again maintained during 1970, with the exception of the periods immediately following Bank Holidays and during the 5 weeks when collection was not possible, due to the national withdrawal of labour. However, with the co-operation of the refuse collectors, the back-log of work was quickly caught up and the service generally kept up to its usual standard.

It is indeed unfortunate that in this part of the country a kerb-side collection has always been accepted as being a reasonable method of refuse collection whereas in other areas, to leave dustbins on the kerb-side each week for any period up to 24 hours would be unthinkable, particularly since not only are the rows of dustbins unsightly, but the majority of households only have 1 bin and yet average $1\frac{1}{4}$ bins refuse. The result of this is that at almost every house there are open boxes or bags of refuse which are subject to high winds blowing them about and to the foraging of animals. It is very difficult, of course, to change over completely from a kerb-side to a back door collection, purely due to the economic position and the present high cost of labour. This, however, is highly desirable and must be the aim of any progressive Local Authority.

One small side loading vehicle is used for the special collection of bulky items or other objects, which cannot be loaded into a compression type of vehicle. Despite this service there is still a large amount of indiscriminate dumping taking place on the less frequented lanes, but the offenders are never seen and do not leave evidence of where they live, thus making prosecution impossible.

At the beginning of the year a bonus scheme was introduced for the refuse collectors, following an investigation and evaluation by the Wiltshire County Council Work Study Unit. This scheme has operated reasonably well, except that it does not have the flexibility to deal with situations other than normal routine: at periods following Bank Holidays, or when vehicles have broken down and another crew assists to catch up the back-log of work. The scheme has, however, conformed with the estimated financial cost and has enabled a reduction in staff to be made.

At the end of the year a collection service was implemented involving the use of a new screw feed compression vehicle, emptying $1\frac{1}{4}$ cubic yard bulk containers from factories, shops, etc.

Vehicles

At the end of the year, the following vehicles were engaged on the refuse collection service:-

<u>Type</u>	<u>Cubic yards</u>	<u>Cwts</u>	<u>Acquired</u>
1 Shelvoke & Drewry "Pakamatic"	50	-	2nd December, 1964.
1 Morris Commercial Van	-	10	25th May, 1965.
1 Shelvoke & Drewry "Pakamatic"	50	-	14th July, 1966.
1 Shelvoke & Drewry "Pakamatic"	50	-	23rd March, 1968.
1 Bedford Van	-	6	9th May, 1968.
1 Shelvoke & Drewry "Pakamatic"	50	-	14th June, 1968.
1 B.100 Loading Shovel	-	-	April, 1967.
1 Dodge Refuse Vehicle	8	-	16th July, 1968.
1 Shelvoke & Drewry "Pakamatic"	35	-	24th February, 1969.
1 Commer Musketeer	50	-	31st December, 1970.

A great deal of trouble has been experienced with breakdowns of these highly complex machines during the year, despite a maintenance schedule which involves 4 detailed inspections and major services by an outside engineering firm; 12 monthly services; and 24 weekly services, apart from the every-day inspection and topping up of oils, water, etc., by the Council's fitter. The explanation for these breakdowns might possibly be the fact that since the introduction of the bonus scheme there has been quite a growth of properties in the area and the workmen may have been tempted to over-load the vehicle on its first trip to the tip, in order to ensure that the remaining refuse could easily be loaded onto the second load, so that a third trip to the tip would not be necessary. With the increasing complexity of the mechanism of modern refuse collection vehicles and the heavy wear which they undergo, it may be necessary in the future for an anticipated life of only 5 years to be allowed for, instead of the present 7 years.

Staff

1 Cleansing Inspector
1 Foreman
11 Drivers
11 Loaders
1 Plant Operator (for refuse disposal)
1 Street Cleaner
1 Yard-man

Absenteeism would appear to have dropped appreciably since the advent of the bonus scheme and problems due to lack of labour have been greatly minimised. It has not been found necessary to employ additional labour because, for short periods, a lorry can work without its full complement of men, provided that help is given on the days when it is known that the work is particularly heavy.

Staff (cont'd)

Casual labour was only employed at the height of the summer, when a number of workmen were all on holiday over the same period. The labour force has been reasonably static, and indeed when vacancies have arisen, there has been no difficulty in obtaining suitable employees. This has meant, of course, that each round is extremely well settled and every-one gets used to working with his fellow crew mates, thus making the service more efficient.

Refuse disposal

Tipping continued during the year at the Rhymes Barn site, although it now becomes more evident that the ground is quickly being filled in and will not last very much longer. The tip itself is kept to a reasonably high standard and this has been possible because the operator was able to dig out covering material from the banks around the edges of the original gravel pit. However, this source of covering material is rapidly diminishing and it will be necessary for covering material to be purchased from an outside contractor in order to minimise risk of nuisance from smell, flies, rats, and to prevent the out-break of fire between the tipping layers.

Street Cleaning

Towards the end of the year, a scheme was implemented whereby the most frequented shopping areas in the district were cleaned manually at least once a week and the worst areas were cleaned twice weekly. The cleaning consists of sweeping along the shop frontages and gutters, picking up litter and emptying of litter bins. There has been a distinct improvement in the cleanliness of the area, so much so, that if the cleaner fails to visit a site on his usual day, complaints are very soon received.

General

As with most services in this day and age, the collection of refuse is one where it is essential to provide a service to all the rate payers which is both efficient, economic and reliable. However, this is very difficult to attain, since the work has got to be completed to a set pattern, on a set day, no matter what the state of the vehicles, the number of men, or the weather, and it has been found that on occasions the service is only provided by stretching machines and men to the utmost. It is obviously not advisable to carry too many spare men, or vehicles, but nevertheless the stage will soon be reached where it will be impossible to accommodate any further demands from new properties, etc., with the existing personnel and fleet.

Statistical details

Number of premises from which collection is made	...	14,763
Area of district	...	48,549 acres
Method of collection	...	weekly, kerb-side
Method of disposal	...	controlled tipping

SECTION EIGHT

PETROLEUM CONSOLIDATION ACT, 1928

The following table gives the total quantities of petroleum spirit, cellulose and calcium carbide stored in the district, together with the number of licences issued.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT

Number of licences issued to private users	...	66	
Number of licences issued to filling stations	...	21	
		<u>87</u>	
Total quantity licensed for private users	...	41,650	gallons
Total quantity licensed for filling stations	...	153,900	"
Total quantity licensed	...	<u>195,550</u>	"

The number of petroleum licences issued in each parish are as shown detailed overleaf.

CELLULOSE

Number of licences issued	...	<u>6</u>
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These licences were all issued to private users, as follows:-

Blunsdon	...	100	gallons
Stratton	...	6,350	"
Wanborough	...	25	"
Total quantity licensed	...	<u>6,475</u>	"

CALCIUM CARBIDE

Number of licences issued	...	<u>3</u>
---------------------------	-----	----------

These licences were all issued to private users, as follows:-

Chiseldon	(1)	...	2,240	lbs.
Highworth	(1)	...	112	"
Stratton	(1)	...	89,600	"
Total quantity licensed			<u>91,952</u>	"

SPECIAL BOILING POINT SOLVENT

Number of licences issued	...	<u>1</u>	
(Private user, Stratton St. Margaret)			
Total quantity licensed	...	<u>1,000</u>	gallons

NUMBER OF LICENCES ISSUED

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Number of licences</u>		<u>Quantity stored in gallons</u>		<u>Total stored in gallons</u>
	<u>Filling stations</u>	<u>Private stores</u>	<u>Filling stations</u>	<u>Private stores</u>	
Bishopstone	-	7	-	2,500	2,500
Blunsdon	1	3	11,000	600	11,600
Castle Eaton	-	3	-	1,400	1,400
Chiseldon	2	7	13,500	2,450	15,950
Haydon Wick	1	1	9,000	250	9,250
Highworth	3	11	18,000	2,600	20,600
South Marston	1	1	10,000	5,000	15,000
Stanton Fitzwarren	-	1	-	200	200
Stratton St. Margaret	10	15	73,400	18,700	92,100
Wanborough	1	8	1,000	3,000	4,000
Wroughton	2	9	18,000	4,950	22,950
Totals:	<u>21</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>153,900</u>	<u>41,650</u>	<u>195,550</u>

SECTION NINE

HOUSING

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1970

1.	Number of permanent dwellings in the district at the end of the year	...	...	14,941
2.	Number of permanent dwellings in the district owned by the Local Authority	...	...	2,446
3.	Number of temporary dwellings in the district owned by the Local Authority	...	...	Nil
4.	Number of applications for council houses at the end of the year (live list)	...	...	688
5.	<u>Inspection of dwellings during the year:</u>			
	(i) Number of dwellings inspected under the Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	1,210
	(ii) Number of dwellings found to be unfit	...	...	Nil
6.	Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	...	...	Nil
7.	<u>Action under Statutory Powers</u>			
	<u>A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 12 of the Housing Act 1957</u>			
	(i) Number of dwellings where notices were served requiring defects to be remedied			Nil
	(ii) Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices:			
	(a) By owners	...	...	Nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners			Nil
	<u>B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts</u>			
	(i) Number of dwellings where formal notices were served	...	...	2
	(ii) Number of dwellings made fit as a result of formal notices:			
	(a) By owners	...	...	Nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners			Nil
	<u>C. Proceedings under Section 16, Housing Act 1957</u>			
	(i) Number of Demolition Orders made	...	...	Nil
	(ii) Number of dwellings demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	...	...	2
	(iii) Number of Undertakings accepted to make fit, or not to re-let	...	...	Nil
	(iv) Number of dwellings made fit as a result of Undertakings	...	...	1

7. Action under Statutory Powers (Cont'd)

D. Proceedings under Sections 42, 43, 46, 48, Housing Act 1957

(i)	Number of dwellings in clearance areas upon which Demolition Orders were made	...	Nil
(ii)	Number of dwellings demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	...	Nil
(iii)	Number of dwellings in clearance areas which have been retained as temporary accommodation	...	Nil

E. Proceedings under Section 17, 18 and 27, Housing Act 1957 and Section 26, Housing Act 1961

(i)	Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were made	...	Nil
(ii)	Number of dwellings closed as a result of Closing Orders or Undertakings by owners	...	Nil

F. Proceedings under Section 76, Housing Act 1957

(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding at end of year	...	Nil
(ii)	Number of cases of overcrowding discovered during the year	...	Nil
(iii)	Number of cases of overcrowding abated during the year	...	Nil

LOCAL AUTHORITY TEMPORARY DWELLINGS DEALT WITH

Closed or demolished	...	...	24 during 1963
" " "	...	...	76 " 1964
" " "	...	...	79 " 1965
" " "	...	...	133 " 1966
" " "	...	...	77 " 1967
" " "	...	...	5 " 1968
" " "	...	...	11 " 1969
" " "	...	...	Nil " 1970
			<u>405</u>

STANDARD IMPROVEMENT GRANTS COMPLETED FROM 1961 - 1970

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of grants</u>	<u>Amount of grant paid</u> £
1961	34	2,778
1962	61	5,661
1963	33	3,940
1964	58	7,175
1965	60	4,235
1966	29	4,048
1967	33	4,933
1968	38	7,040
1969	33	6,069
1970	28	4,775
	<u>407</u>	<u>50,654</u>

DISCRETIONARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Number of Discretionary Improvement Grants completed during 1970	...	25
Total value of Discretionary Improvement Grants paid during 1970	...	£10,482

This brings the total number of Discretionary Improvement Grants completed from 1949 to 1970, to 307 and the total value of Grant paid during that period, to £89,790.

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS, 1936/57

DURING THE YEAR 1970:

Number of Demolition Orders made	...	...	0
Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	0
Number of Undertakings accepted	...	...	0
			-
			0
			=
Number of houses demolished	...	...	2
Number of Closing Orders lifted	...	...	0
Number of Undertakings cleared	...	...	1
Number of Demolition Orders revoked	...	...	0
Number of Closing Orders replaced by Demolition Orders	...	...	0
Number licensed for temporary occupation		...	4
Number rendered uninhabitable and adapted for use as stores	...	...	0
			-
			7
			=

FROM 1945 - 1970

Number of Demolition Orders made	...	...	191
Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	25
Number of Undertakings accepted	...	...	111
			—
			327
			==
Number of houses demolished	...	...	223
Number of Closing Orders lifted	...	...	9
Number of Undertakings cleared	...	...	82
Number of Demolition Orders revoked	...	...	4
Number licensed for temporary occupation		...	4
Number rendered uninhabitable and adapted for use as stores	...	...	9
Number of which action is pending	...	...	5
			—
			336
			==

